



# Reporter

Presented by:  
Milwaukee County EMS Council  
Public Information Committee

Fall, 2009  
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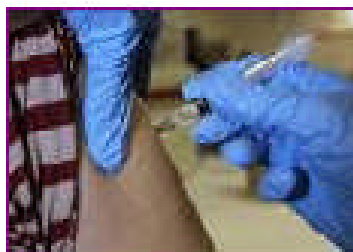


Milwaukee County EMS Council  
Public Information Committee

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council- Public Information Committee is to effectively provide accurate information to the stakeholders, elected officials and the general public relative to the contributions of the Milwaukee County EMS System. The committee will accomplish this through education, community outreach and media relations.

## EMS Providers Answer Call to Assist With H1N1 (swine) Flu vaccines



Several municipal fire departments recently answered the call to assist area health departments to provide mass H1 N1 flu vaccination clinics to at risk people. Because the need was and remains present to have an increased number of health care providers available to administer the intranasal and intramuscular injections, many health departments turned to their local fire departments emergency medical services (EMS) for assistance.

Paramedics and EMT/Basic firefighters who are employed by local fire departments had already been educated on how to administer intramuscular injections, and were provided with "just in time" education on administering the vaccine into a nasal passage. A standardized curriculum for the "just in time" education was provided to the fire departments, and Milwaukee County EMS policies were revised to allow EMT/Basic and Paramedics to assist their local health departments in administering the H1N1 vaccines according to the Center for disease Control (CDC) recommendations.

In addition, several approvals

from the State of Wisconsin public health administrators and section of emergency medical services administrators were sought and obtained to allow the EMS providers to alter their normal scope of practice and assist in the important vaccination process. In addition, several documents outlining the liabilities and protections of using EMS providers to assist in the mass vaccination clinics were distributed to area fire departments. EMS staff worked under the direction of area health departments who screened patients and approved the administration of the vaccine.

The EMS providers will continue to assist local health departments during future vaccination clinics. The ability for EMS providers to partner with area public health departments to provide an additional level of care to the citizens throughout Milwaukee County is another example of the flexibility and willingness of EMS providers to provide quality urgent care to the citizens EMS providers serve.



## Heartfelt Thanks

I work for Milwaukee County EMS, and I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You". Thank you to the Mayors, Aldermen, County Board Supervisors, County Executive, all elected officials in Milwaukee County, Paramedics, EMT's, Fire Chiefs, taxpayers, and support staff for MC EMS etc. who support, maintain, and fund the Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Services Program.

Within the past week, my life was enhanced by knowing that I could dial 911, and obtain much needed assistance for an 85 year old loved one, and an 87 year old neighbor. MC EMS is a priceless gem. The fact that you can dial 911, and within a matter of minutes have a well trained, calm, friendly face at your side to help in time of a medical emergency is comforting and reassuring. Thank you all for supporting the MC EMS Program, it is a program which touches all of our lives at one time or another - it is comforting to know help is a 911 phone call away.

Janis Spitzer  
MC EMS  
Administrative Asst.

## Calendar

### EMS Council Meeting

December 3, 2009

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place:

FMLH Conference Ctr.  
8700 Watertown Plank Rd.

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On December 31, 2009, after 30 years of dedicated service, **Michael Milbrath**, the EMS Communications and Stores Manager is retiring.

Mike has been the go to man if you need to know about ZOLL monitors, supplies on the Med Rigs, the Milwaukee County Radio System, American Heart Association Classes, where the AED's are located in County Buildings, and what is happening thru EMS Com – the Milwaukee County Communications Center at Froedtert Hospital.

Thank you Mike for your commitment, devotion and allegiance over the past 30 years. Best Wishes to you as you retire!

### **EMS Providers Spotlighted In the February Reporter**



## EMS Providers in The Spotlight



Curtis Ambulance Service was established in 1858, making Curtis the oldest ambulance service in the State of Wisconsin. The company is currently operated by the second generation of the Baker family, which purchased it in 1950.

Today, Curtis Ambulance Service operates stations in Milwaukee, Dane, and Adams Counties, and through our Medix Ambulance Division in Racine, Kenosha and Walworth Counties. We operate at all license levels available to an EMS provider ranging from EMT Basic to Critical Care Paramedic. Arrangements with local communities throughout Wisconsin range from being the primary ALS 911 EMS provider, to that of an EMT Basic transport in a tiered multi-provider response system.

Curtis Ambulance Service believes in giving back to these communities by working with several social service organizations, such as Aurora Family Services in Milwaukee, where we deliver Thanksgiving dinners to needy families. We also donate and deliver Christmas trees (with County Executive Scott Walker) to local churches and shelters in the inner city.

We pride our success on the dedication and commitment of our staff to provide the best and most professional service available and with working with local fire departments and first responder groups as part of the EMS team.



### **Franklin Fire Department – Med 11 turns 20**

November 5<sup>th</sup> marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Advanced Life Support (ALS) paramedic service to the city of Franklin. *Med 11*, Franklin's primary paramedic ambulance went into service in 1989, when the city elected to hire 12 full-time personnel to be trained to the paramedic level. The department was established in 1954, and prior to 1989 had relied primarily on paid-on-call firefighter EMTs who responded to the fire station from their homes, and provided basic life support (BLS) medical care and hospital transport.

The transition from paid-on-call to a full-time, professional department was not without challenges. The original 12 paramedics spent that first cold winter sleeping and eating in the apparatus bay as the station's living quarters were renovated to accommodate full-time occupancy.

Today, the Franklin Fire Department's 28 paramedics and 15 EMTs provide emergency medical services to one of the area's most rapidly growing communities. All personnel are also firefighters and cross-staff the department's ladder truck and two engine companies. The department operates out of three stations, including a brand new quarters for Engine 3/Ambulance 3 that opened in October of this year.

Franklin's Med 11 also provides primary ALS coverage to the Village of Hales Corners, and is the second-due paramedic unit to the communities of Greendale and Greenfield. In 2008, Med 11 was joined by Med 282, enabling the department to operate two paramedic units and two BLS ambulances. In addition, all of the department's paramedics are authorized to provide ALS treatment as paramedic first responders, prior to arrival of a transporting paramedic unit.

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## MFD Lends Support to Worthy Causes

### MDA "Fill the Boot"

From August 27-29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., firefighting personnel from all 36 firehouses hit the streets to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). The 2009 "Fill the Boot" fundraising goal was \$100,000 and although they fell short of that goal, they did raise an impressive \$82,232.42. Last year they raised \$28,000.

Members of the Milwaukee Fire Dept. would like to thank all the residents of Milwaukee who donated funds and helped fill the boot for MDA.

### Pink T-Shirts for Breast Cancer

October 1 once again found MFD kicking off its annual pink t-shirt fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen Milwaukee affiliate. The department joined the fight against breast cancer for

the second consecutive year, and sold pink t-shirts with the traditional MFD logo on the front, and "Fire & Rescue" on the back. All net proceeds go to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Milwaukee affiliate, and last year the department raised \$27,256.

All MFD members and the public were able to purchase the t-shirts for \$10 to help the local Komen affiliate fund breast health education, breast cancer screenings, and treatment programs. On-duty MFD members wore the pink t-shirts, in place of their approved t-shirts, every day during the month of October.

"The Milwaukee Fire Department is excited to once again engage in a fun and worthy fundraiser during Breast Cancer Awareness month," said Chief Douglas A. Holton. "Each year thousands of people are diagnosed with breast cancer, and this is our way of showing we are here

to help them win the fight against a potentially deadly diagnosis."

"We are honored that the MFD is continuing their efforts to fundraise for our affiliate again this year," said Sally Sheperdson, executive director for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Milwaukee affiliate. "Last year the public was receptive to the idea of purchasing pink t-shirts, and we hope this year they are just as receptive and passionate about joining our fight against breast cancer."



## Paramedic Education Opportunities

### Spinal Cord Injury/Stroke and Neurovascular Preceptorship

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

7:15 - Noon

Community Conference Center #3

8700 Watertown Plank Rd.

RSVP to [Phaines@fmlh.edu](mailto:Phaines@fmlh.edu)

### Paramedic Preceptorship in Cardiovascular Care

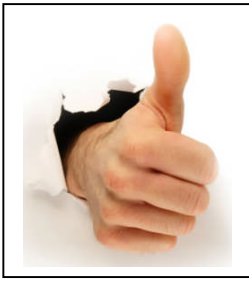
Friday, January 8, 2010

9:00-4:00 PM

Helpaer Auditorium, Froedtert Hospital

RSVP to [Phaines@fmlh.edu](mailto:Phaines@fmlh.edu)





## **KUDOS**

### **Nick Poplar, Firefighter/EMT**

### **St. Francis Fire Department**

On the night of July 7, 2009 Barbara Jones (not her real name) had just returned from a day of running errands. For much of the day she just didn't feel her normal self. So when she returned to the comforts of home to finally sit and rest in her favorite chair she had no idea what was going to happen. The rest of the night, she has no memory of the events of that evening.

Her son recognized that something was wrong, so as neighbors do, he ran next door to ask for help. Fortunately Barbara's next door neighbor is firefighter Nick Poplar, an off duty firefighter/EMT for the city of St. Francis. Nick figured something was wrong when he opened the front door and there stood the neighbor being soaked by his sprinkler. After a short comment and without question Nick raced next door and found Barb Pulseless Non Breather (in cardiac arrest). Nick placed Barb on the floor, made a quick assessment, started CPR and instructed his wife to call 9-1-1.

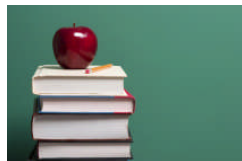
Within 2 minutes the St. Francis Fire and Police Departments was on scene assisting with CPR and administering AED protocol. Shortly thereafter, the Med Unit, Med-17 arrived on scene. While the first crews were tending to Barbara, her husband began to have shortness of breath and a second EMS crew was summoned to assist her husband. These types of scenes are repeated over and over on a daily basis across Milwaukee County. In this case, St. Francis being the smallest suburb in Milwaukee County paid huge benefits. Luckily for Barbara, her rescuer lived next door, and with the support of others from the fire department, police department and the EMS system of Milwaukee County, Barbara is alive today.

The system works and although Barbara doesn't remember much, it is due to the quick actions of neighbor/firefighter Nick Poplar that Barbara will more than likely return to her post as a crossing Guard as she has been doing for the last 28 years.

The city of St. Francis' slogan is "St. Francis, where your heart is" If you're lucky, when your heart decides to take a break it's also the place to be for quick efficient quality emergency medical service.

Nick Poplar Firefighter/EMT for the St. Francis Fire Department

Nominated by Fire Chief Frank Lockwood



## **2010 Paramedic Class**

The classroom portion of training for the 2010 paramedic class began 9/28. The 12 students are working diligently and studying for numerous quizzes and exams. They are learning many new paramedic skills and practicing to achieve precision.

Clinical rotations begin on 10/27. Clinical rotations utilize 6 area emergency rooms and 2 hospital operating rooms. In addition, there are experiences at the Medical Examiner's Office, cardiac catheterization dept. and OB/GYN department.

Paramedic school continues until January, when the class will participate in the first of two major tests from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT).

After this first psychomotor testing, the students move on to field training for 10 weeks. This means the students return to their "home" fire departments for monitored training on the ambulance. In April, a written summation exam is completed and then the well deserved COMMENCEMENT. The last major examination is a written NREMT exam done after graduation.

The next issue of the REPORTER will be distributed in February, 2010.  
Anyone having content for this issue is encouraged to submit the same to Janis Spitzer @  
[janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com](mailto:janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com) no later than January 20, 2010.